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Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., May 24, 1832, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.

Washington, May 24, 1832.

My D'r son, I have this morning recd. your letter of the 14th instant with much pleasure and satisfaction, and am pleased that the colts are sent on. you know my son, how loth I was to have any horses trained on my farm. It was that, which might have been construed that I was encouraging racing, not when I was giving them to you, and Andrew, and [having] them sent away and run else where. I hope they will reach their stables provided for them by major Donelson, and that your filly may prove profitable to you and the other two also. I have no wish to acquire wealth for myself, if I can add to your and Sarahs comforts whilst I live, and leave you comfortable and independent of the world when I die, I am contented.

I wish you to bring to a close the accounts with Steel. settle the whole with him amicably, if you can, and take his receipt—and also with Mr Morrison. remember the old adage, "that short settlements makes long friends", and never pay mony without a receipt. With Steel take into account the season of Bolivar last year. after a settlement you can judge better if he ought to be continued longer than the present year and before he is notified of a change be certain that you can get another that will do as well as him. I think him honest, but unacquainted with accounts but in your settlement you will be able to conclude whether I am mistaken in the good opinion I have formed of him—he never ought to have blended his accounts with mine, and if he had not, there was no need of a settlement, or any deficulty in our accounts, as every year my account was settled for articles furnished

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for the use of the farm with Mr Josiah Nichol who furnished them. In your settlement it will be necessary to advert to Mr Nichols accounts and examine them well to see whether I am not charged for mony advanced for those articles contained in Steels accts and charged to me.

I wish you to direct and see that the colts, viz, the two year old filly by Stockholder and the Bolivar colts, are well fed. Their food ought to be mostly oats and grass, much corn injures their legs, particularly in hot weather. These colts if well attended to will be valuable.

Sarah writes me about a Carpet for the dining room and some table linnen and common furniture for the Table. There were abundant supply of table linnen etc. etc, when we left the Hermitage, but I suppose it must have gone the same way as the sheets. I have said in my letter to Sarah inclosed that a carpet must be bought for the dining room. There is always a supply of the carpets made by the Shakers, to be had at Mr Nichols, and she must buy such furniture as the House wants, having an eye to a proper oeconomy. This you will have done agreable to her directions. I have named the domestic carpet, as it will be cheaper and better than an oil cloth or matt.